

WAVES OF CHANGE

PART FOUR

SONIC

Archie
COMICS

SEGA®

THE HEDGEHOG

ISSUE 263



Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures - A world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

PREVIOUSLY...

IMPERFECT CHAOS!

The Shattered World Crisis is upon us! The planet's crust has shattered apart, and monsters crawl from the cracks every night! Sonic and the Freedom Fighters are on the hunt for the seven Chaos Emeralds and Gaia Temples. By combining their power, they hope to restore the world to order.



citizens she'd sworn to protect. The result: the city's protective shield fell!

Now Meropis is overrun with ravenous monsters! To make matters worse, Sonic and Rotor are drowning as they fall before the might of the malicious Dark Guardian...



WHO'S WHO



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
WORLD FAMOUS HERO



AMY ROSE
HAMMER-SWINGING HEROINE
& ROTOR
THE WALRUS
BRAINY, BRAWNY HERO



CORAL THE BETTA
TEMPLE PRIESTESS
& RAZORD THE SHARK
TEMPLE DEFENDER



???

MEROPIS--CITY
UNDER SIEGE!

WAVES OF CHANGE

Part Four: DIVINE WATERS

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ANTHONY GACCIONE at SEGA Licensing

ROTOR
GREAT SWIMMER--
BUT STILL
DROWNING!

**DARK
GUARDIAN**
COMMANDER
OF MONSTERS

RUNNING
--OUT OF--
AIR!

BUTT
--GETTING--
KICKED!

I'M
--LOSING--
IT!!!

SONIC
FAST ON LAND--
HOPELESS
UNDERWATER





MEANWHILE, IN THE NEARBY EUSEBES SHRINE...

RAZOR! THE AIR CHARMS SONIC AND ROTOR TOOK MIGHT HAVE RUN OUT BY NOW!

PEARLY PRIESTESS IN TRAINING

CRUSHER RAZOR'S CHAO BUDDY

AMY ROSE WARRIOR WOMAN

KINDA GOT MY HANDS FULL HERE, SQUIRT!

RAZOR CORAL'S SWORN PROTECTOR

RAZOR--SONIC NEEDS ME! IF I TAKE AN AIR CH--!

MORE ARE COMING THROUGH THE CEILING!

GUARD PEARLY AND THE CHAO! I'LL COVER THE TEMPLE! WE HAVE TO HOLD OUT--

--UNTIL CORAL FINISHES THE RITES!"

THE RITES ARE FAILING,
THE MYSTIC MELODY
ISN'T WORKING...IF
ONLY I HADN'T FAILED
AQUARIUS...

CORAL
PRIESTESS
UNDER
PRESSURE

O SPIRITS! PLEASE HEAR ME!
PLEASE DON'T LET MY FAILINGS
DOOM SO MANY OTHERS! WE
NEED A MIRACLE! I'M BEGGING
YOU!



O PRIESTESS--
FORGIVE ME FOR
NOT ANSWERING
YOU SOONER. THE
DARK POWERS
HINDER SPIRIT AND
MORTAL ALIKE.



...FOR HELP IS
ON THE WAY!"

YOU HAVE FAILED
NO ONE, AND TAKE
HEART...

=GASP!!!=

OH, SNAP!

CHAOS?



CHAOS
THE WATER GOD
(SOMETIMES "OF
DESTRUCTION")



HE JUST HIT THAT
MONSTER WITH THE
OCEAN!

OH! OH! THAT'S WHY
THE OCEANS DIDN'T DRAIN
WHEN THE WORLD BROKE
APART! CHAOS IS CON-
TROLLING IT ALL!

ROTOR?
BUDDY?
GEEK-OUT
LATER,
SAVE CITY
NOW!

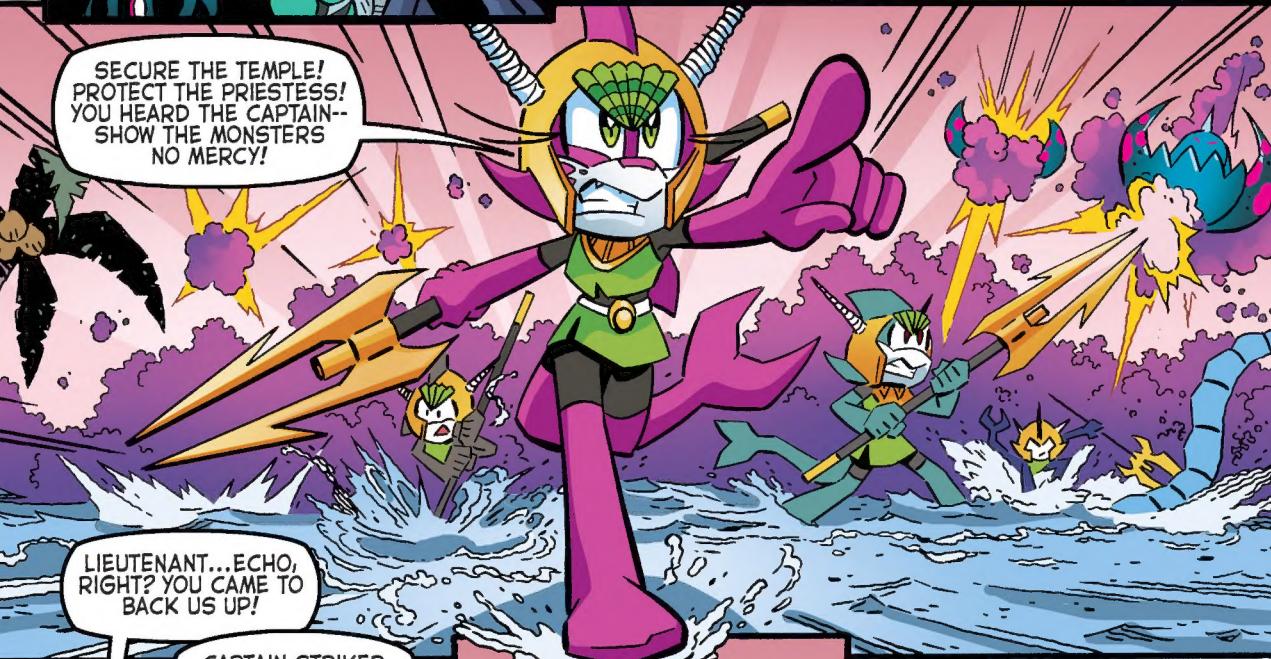
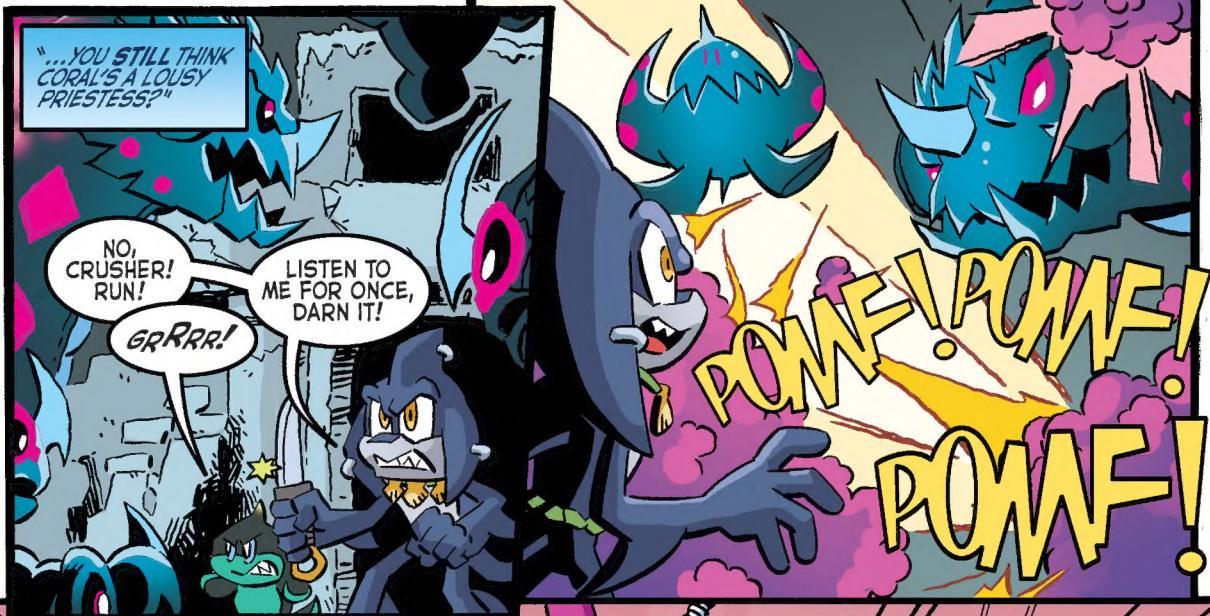
TH-THAT'S...CHAOS! THE LIVING
WAVE! THE GUARDIAN OF CHAO!
YOU KNOW CHAOS?!

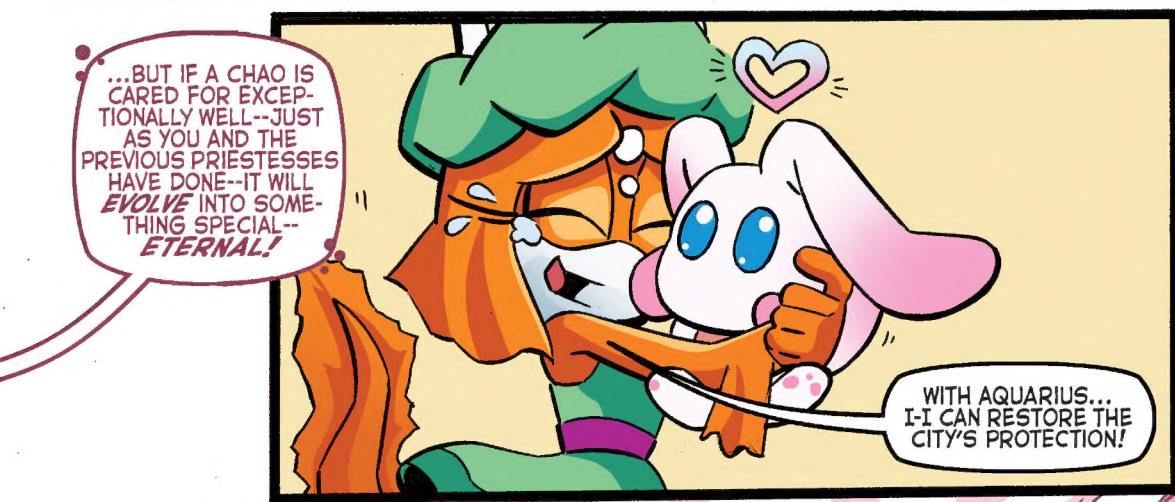
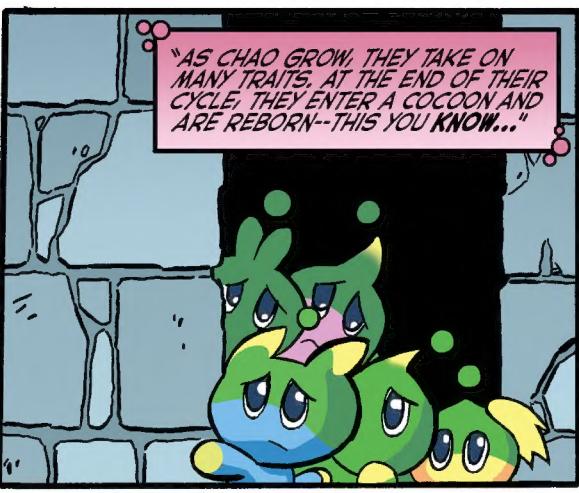
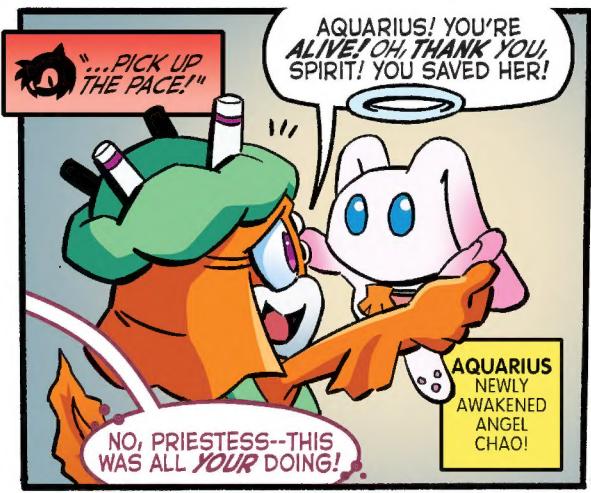
OH,
SURE. I
HELPED
HIM WITH
A THING
ONCE.

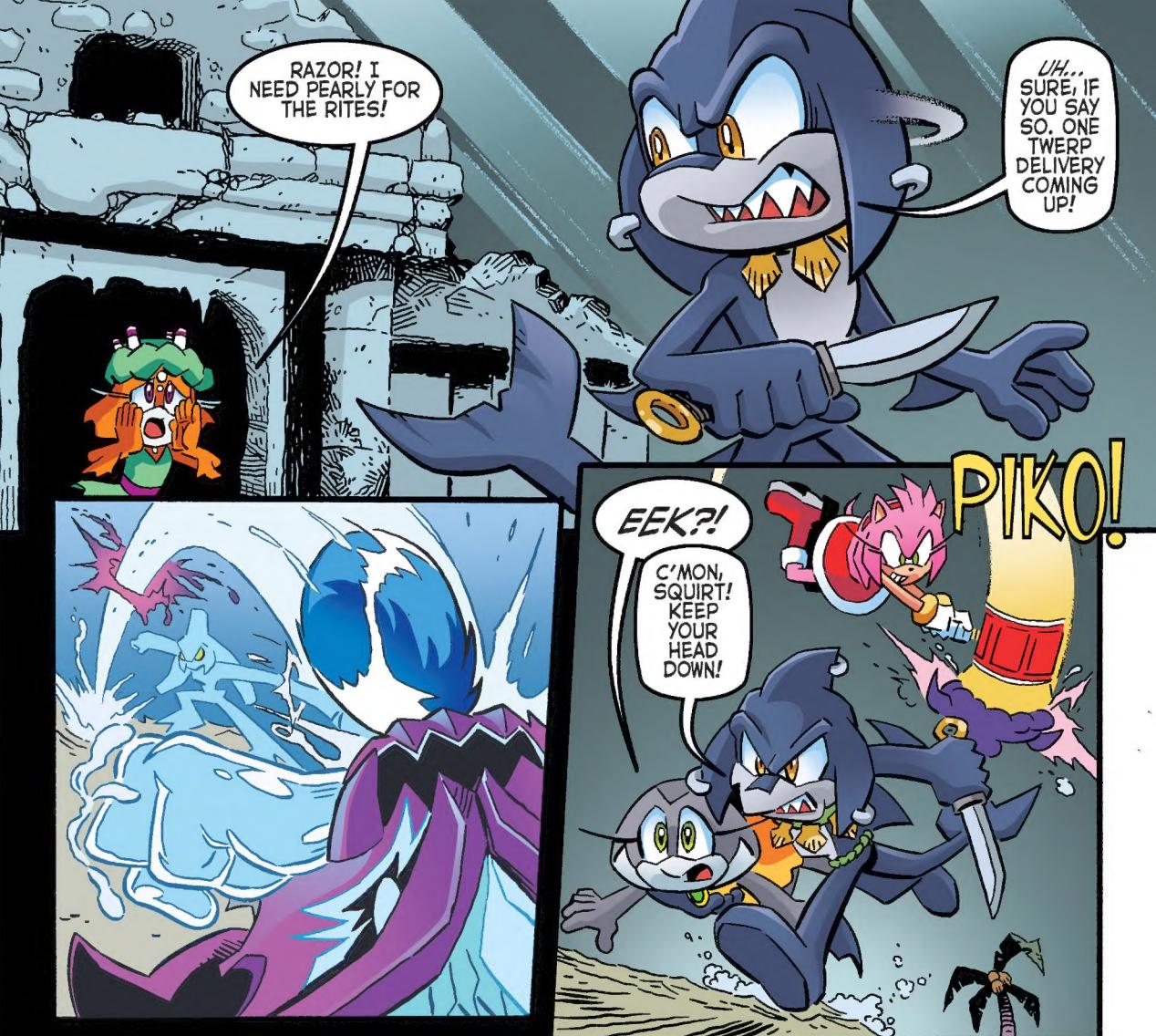
STRIKER
THE MANTIS
SHRIMP
CAPTAIN
OF THE CITY
GUARD

I GUESS
CORAL USED
HER CONNEC-
TIONS TO BRING
HIM IN. SO TELL
ME, CAP'N...











VWOOSH!

POMF

POMF POMF

POMF

TOUGH
GUY,
HUH?

LET'S
SHOW HIM THE
WAY OUT.

KABOOM!

RRRrRARGH

THANKS FOR
ALL THE HELP,
BIG GUY. THINK
YOU CAN STICK
AROUND FOR A
CELEBRITY
APPEARANCE?

?

CLONK!

AND SO...

...SO THEN I RAN THE CITY'S ENVIRONMENTAL RECORDS AGAINST OUR OWN AND COMPARED WATER SAMPLES.

YOUR SPIKE IN POLLUTION IS COMING FROM THE TWO CRASHED EGG CARRIERS-- NOT BECAUSE OF CORAL.

THE OCEAN CURRENTS SENT IT ALL STRAIGHT TO THE CITY.

AND SINCE I MORE-OR-LESS CRASHED THE FIRST ONE...*

THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS PROMISE TO HELP YOU WITH THE CLEAN-UP.

* SONIC ADVENTURE --THE GAME.

IT IS A NOBLE OFFER, BUT WE RESPECTFULLY DECLINE. YOU'VE ALREADY DONE SO MUCH FOR US! YOU HELPED DRIVE BACK THE MONSTER HORDE...

...AND SHOWED US THE ERROR IN OUR JUDGMENT. WE WERE GRAVELY MISTAKEN IN PLACING SO MUCH BLAME UPON CORAL.

PRIESTESS, WE HUMBLY ASK YOU TO RESUME YOUR RIGHTFUL POSITION...

...AND BEG THE PARDON OF THE MIGHTY CHAOS!

THANK YOU, YOUR GRACE. I CHERISH MY DUTIES AND WILL HAPPILY RETURN TO THEM.

AND...ERM ...CHAOS SAYS ALL IS FORGIVEN. (I THINK.)



LATER STILL...

...AND I'M SORRY I COULDN'T EXPLAIN EVERYTHING EARLIER. I CAN ONLY MANIFEST NEAR POINTS OF MAGICAL POWER, AND EVEN THEN, WITH THE WORLD IN TURMOIL, IT'S A STRUGGLE.

PLEASE, WHILE I HAVE TIME, LISTEN...

IT'S WHAT'S BLOCKING ME, PRODUCING THE MONSTERS, AND TURNING EVERYONE'S HEARTS CRUEL. THIS IS THE ESSENCE OF **DARK GAIA**.

YOU WILL NEED THE HELP OF THE LIGHT GAIA TO DRIVE IT BACK. KNUCKLES IS OUT LOOKING FOR HIM RIGHT NOW.*

WOW... YOU MANAGED TO GET KNUX TO COME DOWN OFF HIS HUNK OF ROCK WILLINGLY? *

SERIOUSLY, THO'--ANY IDEA WHERE WE CAN FIND THE TEMPLES?

*"THE GREAT CHAOS CAPER"--IN SONIC UNIVERSE RIGHT NOW!

SADLY, NO. BUT IF YOU REACH OUT TO ME WITH THE MYSTIC MELODY, YOU MAY--

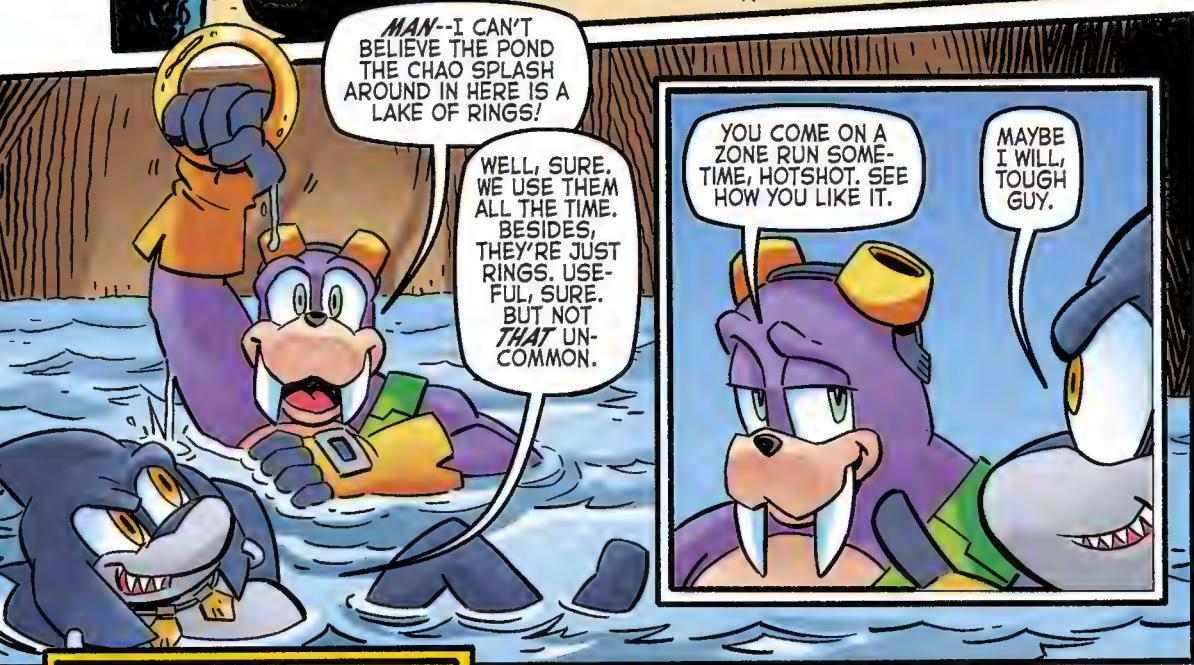
JUST LIKE THAT-- SHE'S GONE AGAIN. I NEVER GOT TO THANK HER...

I'M SURE SHE KNOWS.

WHEN SHE GETS HER STRENGTH BACK, YOU'LL SEE HER AGAIN.

YOU'LL PROBABLY SEE HER BEFORE ME. I'VE **NEVER** SEEN ANYONE LEARN THE MYSTIC MELODY SO FAST!

AH, WHAT CAN I SAY? I'M GIFTED!





"AND WE'LL FILL
YOU IN ON ALL OUR
ADVENTURES!"

MEANWHILE,
DEEP IN THE
RAINFOREST...

YOU HAVE MADE SO MUCH
PROGRESS, MY FRIEND. SWIFT
AS THE WIND, STRONG AS A
MOUNTAIN, AND NOW STILL AS
AN UNTOUCHED POOL...

...AND YET THERE IS A
FIRE THAT STILL BURNS AT
YOUR CORE. DO YOU KNOW
WHY YOU STILL BURN, MY
FRIEND?

I THINK
SO. ALL MY
TRAINING
HAS GIVEN
ME
FOCUS...

...BUT IT
HASN'T GIVEN ME
A PURPOSE.

I NEED TO DO
SOMETHING WITH ALL
THIS POWER.

MIGHTY AND RAY ARE BACK!
BUT WHEN THEY MEET SONIC AGAIN,
WILL IT BE AS FRIENDS--OR AS FOES?
SURPRISES ABOUND NEXT TIME IN...
"CONTROL!"

UNTIL THEN, DON'T MISS OUT ON SONIC UNIVERSE,
SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE, SONIC SUPER
DIGEST, AND THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!



CONSEQUENCES

SCRIPT:

ALEAH
BAKER

PENCILS:

EVAN
STANLEY

INKS:

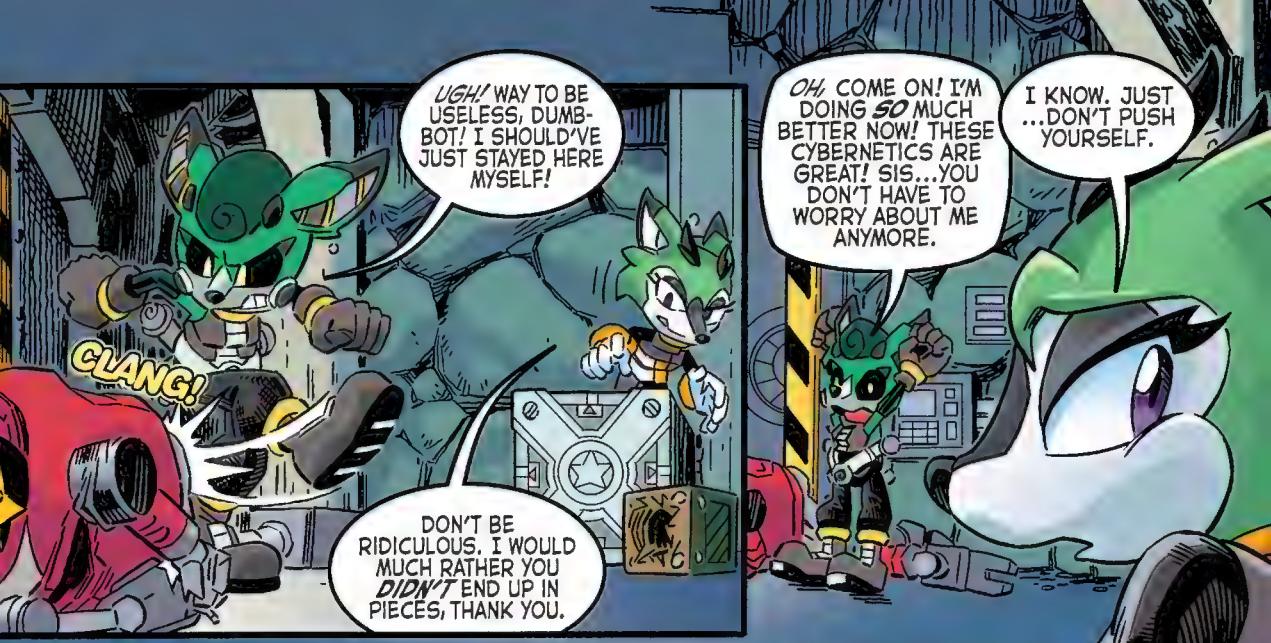
TERRY
AUSTIN

COLORS:

GABRIEL
CASSATA

LETTERS:

JOHN
WORKMAN



*SEE "THE GREAT CHAOS CAPER" IN SU#63-66--ON SALE NOW!



SHORTLY ABOARD
THE DEATH EGG...

...AND
JUDGING FROM
SOME OF THEIR ATTIRE,
WE'VE DETERMINED THAT
THE THIEVES ARE
LIKELY FROM--
MOBOTROPOLIS.

DO YOU THINK I
DON'T KNOW THE
OBNOXIOUS FACE OF
MILES PROWER WHEN
I SEE IT?

I...OF
COURSE,
SIR.

SO WHAT THIS ALL
COMES DOWN TO
IS...YOU HAD THE
CHAOS EMERALD
WITHIN REACH, AND
YOU LOST IT.

TO THE
FREEDOM
FIGHTERS.

WELL, MAYBE IF
YOU'D SENT US THE
RIGHT EQUIPMENT
THE FIRST TIME...

HUSH.

SIR, WITH ALL
DUE RESPECT, WHILE
WE WERE UNABLE TO
PROCEED WITH THE
EXCAVATION, THE
MINE'S LOCATION
WAS KEPT SECRET.

I DON'T WISH TO
MAKE EXCUSES FOR
MYSELF. HOWEVER,
UNLESS THERE WAS
SOME BREACH IN
SECURITY--*

*STH #255 AND
#256. --EDITOR

YES, FINE, WHATEVER.
FORGET THAT WORTH-
LESS HOLE IN THE
GROUND. YOU'RE BEING
REASSIGNED. STAND BY
FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

...AS YOU
WISH, SIR.

ORBOT! CUBOT!

PULL UP THE FILES FOR MY RESOURCE ACQUISITION PROJECT.

OH! TO FIND ANOTHER CHAOS EMERALD? I GUESS YOU NEED TO LOOK SOMEWHERE ELSE SINCE THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS TOOK THIS ONE, HUH?

YES, YES, THEY DID. AND HOW DID THEY KNOW TO LOOK THERE?

...CRYSTAL BALL?

IMPECCABLE DOWSING SKILLS?



* SEE ISSUE #255.

NOT ONLY DID THEY USE MY RESOURCES AGAINST ME, THEY TOOK MY CHAOS EMERALD RIGHT OUT FROM UNDER MY NOSE!

WELL.. AT LEAST YOU KNOW WHERE THE EMERALD IS. SHALL WE MOUNT AN ATTACK TO RECLAIM IT?

BAH! I CAN TAKE IT BACK AT ANY TIME! AND IF THEY THINK THEY CAN USE MY DATA TO FIND ANY OTHERS...

HMM...

...SIR?

WHEN I TOLD YOU TO BRING UP THOSE FILES, DID YOU THINK I MEANT YESTERDAY?

...ER... IS THAT AN ACTUAL QUESTION, OR A RHETORICAL ONE?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

...ARE YOU ACTUALLY ASKING FOR OUR OPINION, OR IS THAT ALSO A RHETORI--

GET TO WORK!



LET'S SEE...THE **NEXT**
MOST PROMISING ENERGY
READING WAS...HERE, SO...

GET
EGG BOSS
THUNDERBOLT
ONLINE!

EVEN
WITH THE
PLANET IN
PIECES, SIR,
TIME ZONES
ARE STILL A
THING.

DO I LOOK LIKE
I CARE?
I'M NOT ASLEEP,
SO WHY SHOULD
ANYONE ELSE BE?

OOH,
WHAT PERFECT
TIMING!

...OH
?

I WAS JUST ABOUT TO
CALL YOU! WE'VE GOT A
CONFIRMED CHAOS
EMERALD BEING RE-
COVERED AS WE SPEAK.
I'LL HAVE IT ON ITS WAY
TO YOU IN A MATTER OF
HOURS!

KEEP IT
THERE.

ERM...
BEG YOUR
PARDON
?

DON'T GET ANY IDEAS.
I'M NOT SAYING IT'S YOURS
TO KEEP. OBVIOUSLY. I'M
SURE YOU KNOW BETTER TO
THINK OF DOING SUCH A
THING.

REALLY,
NOW!

BUT I'M AFRAID THERE'S
SOMEONE ELSE WHO NEEDS
TO LEARN THE CONSE-
QUENCES OF TRYING TO GO
BEHIND MY BACK...OF TRYING
TO BE JUST A LITTLE TOO
CLEVER...AND THAT CHAOS
EMERALD WILL PROVIDE THE
PERFECT BAIT.

OOH, DOCTOR
EGGMAN...

...I **DO**
SO LIKE THE
WAY YOU
THINK!

oh...
SO
not
the
end!



SONIC-GRAMS

FAN ART

Justin S.
from New York



Barrington R.
from Pennsylvania



Justin S.



Doy C. sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com



Sabrina F. sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com

HEY, KIDS!

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SONIC FAN ART OR FAN
COMICS IN PRINT??
SEND YOUR ART TO :

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E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

OFF PANEL

SCRIPT: IAN FLYNN PENCILS: ADAM BRYCE THOMAS
INKS: RICK BRYANT COLORS: STEVEN LISEFSKI



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SONIC-GRAMS

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Dear 'Sonic Grams,'
Hello guys, back again with the usual.

Talk about getting right to the point! And here I thought Sonic was the fastest!

HEY! I heard that!

Firstly, will we see more of this underwater culture after the Waves of Change story is over? I really want to see more of these characters!

This definitely will not be last you see of Razor, Coral, Pearly and the rest of the Meropis crew!

Secondly, what is the next Sonic game you want to adapt after Sonic Unleashed?

Personally, I would love to explore the characters and settings of "Lost World," but we still have much to cover with the shattered world crisis. One game at a time, right?

Finally, what do you guys think of Sonic Boom so far?

Samuel sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thanks for writing in, Samuel! We are super duper pumped for Sonic Boom and can't wait to dive into the Boomiverse! Paul and I have even wrapped our arms with sports tape in anticipation of the awesomeness!

Dear 'Sonic Grams,'
I couldn't have picked a better time to subscribe to the Sonic the Hedgehog comics than now with the Sonic Unleashed story arc! I'm a bit of a fangirl when it comes to the Werehog, (or any Sonic form, really, but who doesn't love the fluff?) so I'm especially looking forward to the upcoming comics!

Glad to hear you're aboard our radical train! The fluff is awesome and so are you!

I'll be checking my mailbox frequently!

Okay! Just be careful if you check it after sunset, the Dark Gaia monsters may be on the prowl!!

I've always loved the comics for giving Sonic a backstory and life outside of the games. I'll keep reading as long as they keep being published! Keep up the great work!

Corinne S. sent to Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Thanks, Corinne! It's fans like you that give us the support we need to keep making the comics. As long as there are Sonic comic fans there will always be Sonic comics!

See y'all next month for the first of an epic two-part story, "Control"!

COLLECTOR COVER SPOTLIGHT

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #263



**CHAO VARIANT BY
EVAN STANLEY**

**AVAILABLE AT YOUR
LOCAL COMIC RETAILER**

FIND A COMIC SHOP NEAR YOU
comicshoplocator.com

COMING SOON!

An advertisement for Sonic Universe Issue 67. The main title "SONIC UNIVERSE" is in large yellow and white letters. "ISSUE 67" is in the top right corner. Below the title, it says "IT'S AN ALL-OUT GRUDGE MATCH! ONLY IN TOTAL ECLIPSE". There are images of Sonic, Knuckles, and Tails in dynamic poses. A smaller image of the comic book cover is shown at the bottom left, featuring a pixel art style.

Visit ArchieComics.com for even more SONIC action!

NEXT ISSUE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 264



UNLEASHED VARIANT
ART PROVIDED BY
SEGA

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Control

PART 1 OF 2